



Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

## Assistant Secretary to sign cooperative agreement with youth organization to establish Indian clubs at BIA-funded schools

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**WASHINGTON** â Assistant Secretary â Indian Affairs David W. Anderson will attend the Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BCGA) 2005 Native American Summit in Phoenix, Ariz., next month where he will sign a cooperative agreement with the organization to establish BCGA Indian Clubs at or near schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The summit will take place Feb. 1-3 at the Embassy Suites Hotel Phoenix-North.

The Assistant Secretary will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to encourage cooperation and collaboration between BCGA and the BIAâs Office of Indian Education Programs (OIEP) to address alcohol and drug abuse, gang activity, violence and other issues that adversely affect Indian students while promoting positive alternatives for at-risk children.

The Assistant Secretary oversees the BIA, the 180-year old agency that serves the 562 Federally recognized tribes and their members, and the BIA school system. BIA-funded schools serve approximately 48,000 American Indian children in 184 elementary and secondary day and boarding schools located on or near 63 reservations in 23 states. One-third of these schools are directly operated by the bureau. The rest are tribally operated under BIA contracts or grants.

**WHO:** Assistant Secretary â Indian Affairs David W. Anderson

**WHAT:** Assistant Secretary Anderson will be attending the Boys & Girls Clubs of America 2005 Native American Summit and will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with BCGA to establish Indian clubs at or near BIA-funded schools.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, February 1, 2005 The program begins at 12:00 noon (local time). The signing will take place at approximately 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Embassy Suites Hotel Phoenix-North, Salon C, 2577 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, Ariz.

**Note to Editors:** Credentialed media covering the event should be in place by 1:15 p.m. Press seating will be provided.

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